



ROMSEY TWINNING

NEWSLETTER  AUGUST 2005

Events Diary 2005

- 24th September **Skittles Evening, Mortimers Arms, Ower. !! BOOK BELOW !!**
- 5th October **EGM and Open Evening on Treviglio, 8.00 pm, Romsey Town Hall**
- 19th November **Quiz Night, Montfort Hall. Questions being put together NOW**
 Details in the next News Letter but start revising as soon as you can.

The Pampolais Visit to Romsey

Despite last minute qualms over the security situation in London, forty four Pampolais set out from Bretagne on Thursday for the overnight crossing from Caen. Unfortunately, one set of travel documents had passed their sell by date and only forty two arrived in Portsmouth on Friday morning. Deciding to cancel their planned trip to London before arriving in Romsey, hastily re-arranged plans saw them turn right at Portsmouth and head for Brighton for the day. Mystified by there only being one pier instead of two, it turns out that our guests enjoyed a day in Worthing!



Things improved as the coach arrived at Romsey School on the Friday evening. Many old friends from across the channel were reunited. We were pleased to see some new visitors too. Fairly tired, the evening was spent with the host families and regaining strength for the hectic week-end to come.

Saturday afternoon saw the Choeur Pampolais sing at King John's Garden. Under their emergency conductor Paul Parmentier, the choir sang various Breton songs to a large and very appreciative crowd. In a unique setting and with clear voice, the choir advertised Romsey Twinning with panache.

The visit was chosen to coincide with the Romsey Arts Festival and the Beggars Fair which was held on that week end. There was plenty to entertain our friends and most were to be seen in town on the Saturday morning enjoying the delightful weather and the street entertainment.

On the Saturday evening, some Romsey Twinners were performing Monteverdi's Vespers in the Abbey and many Pampolais took the opportunity to listen to the performance whilst other Twinners gathered for small dinner parties or just rested.

..... continued overleaf

SKITTLES EVENING at the MORTIMER ARMS, OWER

PLEASE BOOK ON THE FORM OVERLEAF
DO NOT EAT BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME

Apart from the skittles, we have arranged a superb buffet meal during the evening. The Mortimer Arms is a renowned eating house and for your delectation and delight you will have:

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|----------------------------|----|--------------------------------|
| Spicy Chicken Drumsticks | ☆☆ | Mixed Salads |
| Chilli Con Carne with Rice | ☆☆ | Cheese, Crusty Bread & Pickles |
| Tomato & Onion Quiche | ☆☆ | French Fries |
| Hot Sausages | ☆☆ | Garlic Bread |

A MINIMUM OF 30 PARTICIPANTS IS NEEDED TO CONFIRM THE EVENT.
PLEASE BOOK QUICKLY

Sunday was busy with an optional visit to Beaulieu during the day although it did not appear that too many opted out! Again the weather was exceptional and most had to draw breath before attending the official civic dinner in the Town Hall that evening. Romsey's Mayor Jill Gethin attended and the Pampolais Mayor was represented by Marie Raflegeau. Musical interludes were provided by Mayhem and excellent catering by Melting Moments. (Apologies for transposing the musicians and caterers in the last news letter). A most enjoyable evening was had by all.



Eventually, a little bleary eyed, Monday morning arrived and it was time for the *grand depart*. Having originally planned to visit Brighton (or Worthing) on the way back to the ferry, the Pampolais had decided to 'do' Salisbury instead. When everybody finally boarded the coach (*au revoirs* take a long time) we waved our twinnings goodbye. Until our return visit next year here are a few reminders

Outbound Visit to Battenberg

Everything is now in hand for the visit to Battenberg in October. Any queries should go to Jeff Watkin on 023 8041 0666. There will be a full report in a subsequent news letter.



Treviglio

Representatives of Romsey Twinning have now been to Treviglio as part of the reciprocal arrangements to explore an official link between our two towns. Chairman Mike Bull gave a comprehensive brief at the AGM in June and it was encouraging to see many new and potential twinnings attend to listen and join in the debate.



There appear to be some differences in the way each town approaches twinning. Romsey is community based with Town Hall support. Treviglio is at present dominated by the Town Hall and civic structure without the community support we are familiar with. Whilst this difference exists, and following the Italians' exploratory visit to Romsey, there is a keen interest in adopting the Romsey model.

Exchange visits between cultural groups, the Treviglio Wind Orchestra and Romsey Choral Society for example, could enhance the link and this avenue is being explored. The venture enjoys Town Hall support with Mayor Jill Gethin being one of the party to go to Treviglio and it is evident that there is widespread support for the venture to succeed. The AGM approved by a wide margin that work should continue to formalise a twinning link. Mike Bull would appreciate comments and ideas on 01794 514880.

Reply slip for ...SKITTLES EVENING The Mortimer Arms, Ower, 24th September 2005

Please reserve spaces for the above event. Members £11.00, Non Members £11.75 (inclusive of full GASTRONOMIC buffet supper and a SUPER FUN EVENING)

I enclose my cheque for £.....
 Name(s)

made payable to 'Romsey Twinning'
 Address of person making the booking

 .Tel:

**Return with your cheque to Carla Howard, 144 Ringwood Drive,
 North Baddesley SO52 9GP ☎ 023 8073 2841**